

Student Name:

Understanding Poverty through Graphs, Statistics, Charts, and Political Cartoons

Look carefully at each chart, graph, table or cartoon, and then answer the questions.

DOCUMENT NUMBER ONE

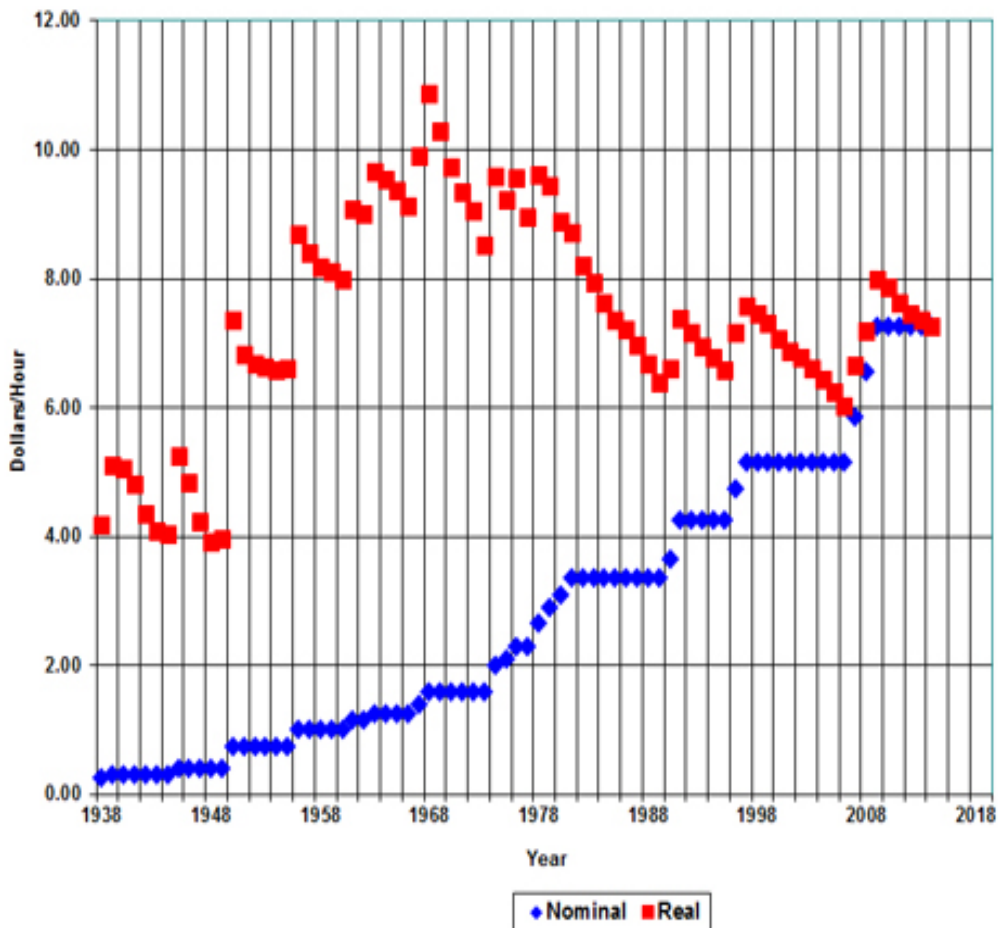
The following figures are the 2017 Health and Human Service poverty guidelines that were published in the Federal Register on January 26, 2017.

2017 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR THE 48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	
Persons in family/household	Poverty guideline
For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$4,180 for each additional person.	
1	\$12,060
2	16,240
3	20,420
4	24,600
5	28,780
6	32,960
7	37,140
8	41,320

1. If Make Lemonade took place in America in modern day, how much would Jolly have had to earn to qualify as living in poverty under the 2017 Poverty Guidelines.
2. List all of the necessary bills that Jolly has to pay each YEAR for her family:
3. Based on your list, do you think that the poverty guidelines are enough to help people like Jolly? Why or why not?

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DOCUMENT NUMBER TWO



A [federal minimum wage](#) was first set in 1938. The graph shows nominal (blue diamonds) and real (red squares) minimum wage values. Nominal values range from \$0.25/hr in 1938 to the current \$7.25/hr. The graph adjusts these wages to 2014 dollars (red squares) to show the real value of the minimum wage. Calculated in real 2014 dollars, the 1968 minimum wage was the highest at \$10.86. Many cities and [states](#) have departed from the federal minimum wage. In 2014, San Francisco has the highest minimum wage at \$10.55. The highest state is Washington's minimum wage at \$9.32, and Oregon's is second at \$9.10.

1. About how much is the **real** Federal minimum wage TODAY?
2. What is the increase in the **nominal** Federal minimum wage value from 1938 to 2008?
3. In what year was the **real** Federal minimum wage highest?

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DOCUMENT NUMBER THREE

The table below shows the changes in minimum wage in the District of Columbia from 2009 to 2016.

Effective Date	Minimum Wage	Minimum OT Wage
July 24, 2009	\$8.25	\$12.38
July 1, 2014	\$9.50	\$14.25
July 1, 2015	\$10.50	\$15.75
July 1, 2016	\$11.50	\$17.25

<http://dcwagelaw.com/dc-minimum-wage-to-increase-to-1150-by-2016/>

On July 1, 2017, the minimum wage in DC was raised to \$12.50 per hour and the minimum overtime wage was raised to \$18.75 per hour.

1. Part-time workers are those who work less than 27 hours and are generally not entitled by law to receive health insurance or paid sick leave.

If Jolly worked 27 REGULAR (not overtime) hours a week, in Washington, DC would her family be above or below the poverty guideline for a family of 3? If Jolly works 40 hours a week, in Washington, DC would she be above or below the poverty guideline for a family of 3?

27 hours/week

40 hours/week

IN 2009?

IN 2017?

2. In your own words, explain why the minimum wage amount is an important factor that can help people who are in poverty.

3. Describe how part-time workers are at a disadvantage?

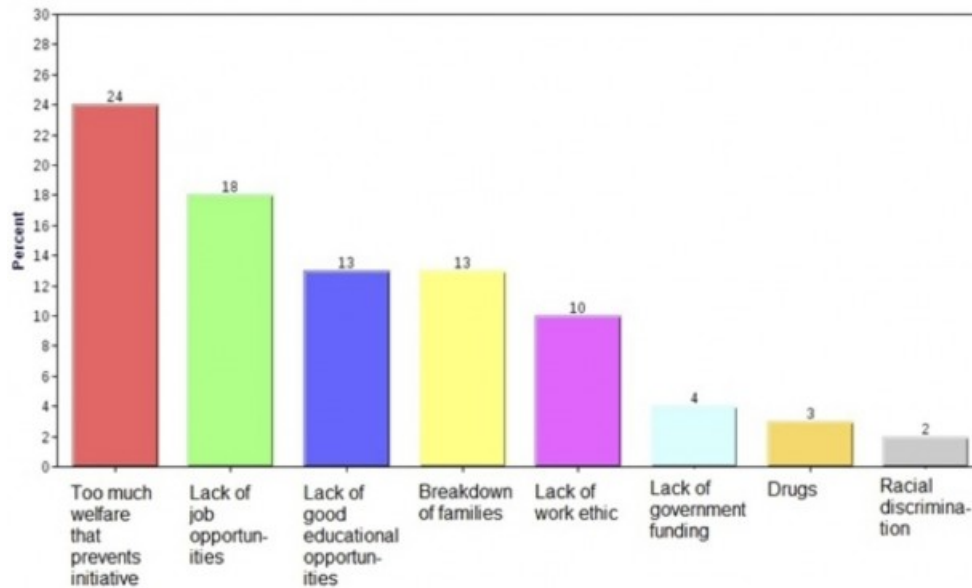
4. What skills or educational experience do people have who typically earn minimum wage? Why do Jolly and Bill Januson earn only a minimum wage?

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DOCUMENT NUMBER FIVE

Poverty in America

Which of the following reasons do you think is most responsible for the continuing problem of poverty?

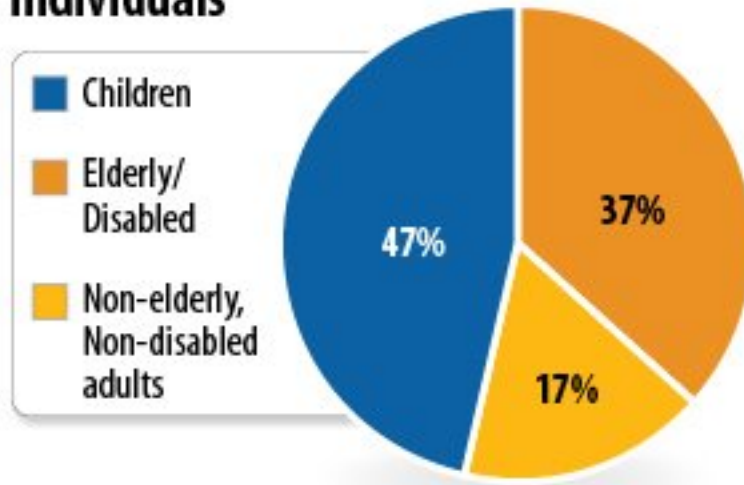


Source: NBC News/Wall Street Journal Poll, June 2013

1. What does the scale on the left beginning with 0 and ending with 30 represent?
2. Based on the people surveyed, which reason is considered to be the greatest cause of continuing poverty?
3. Which is the reason that surveyed people view as the least important cause of continuing poverty?
4. In your view, which ONE of the above reasons causes Jolly's poverty? Which ONE of the above reasons causes Bill's poverty? Use details from the text to support your conclusion.
5. What response in the survey would Bill Januson most agree with? How does his viewpoint impact his family?

DOCUMENT NUMBER SIX

More than Half of SNAP Recipients Are Children, Elderly, and Disabled Individuals



Source: CBPP analysis of data from USDA Food and Nutrition Service, FY 2010

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities | cbpp.org

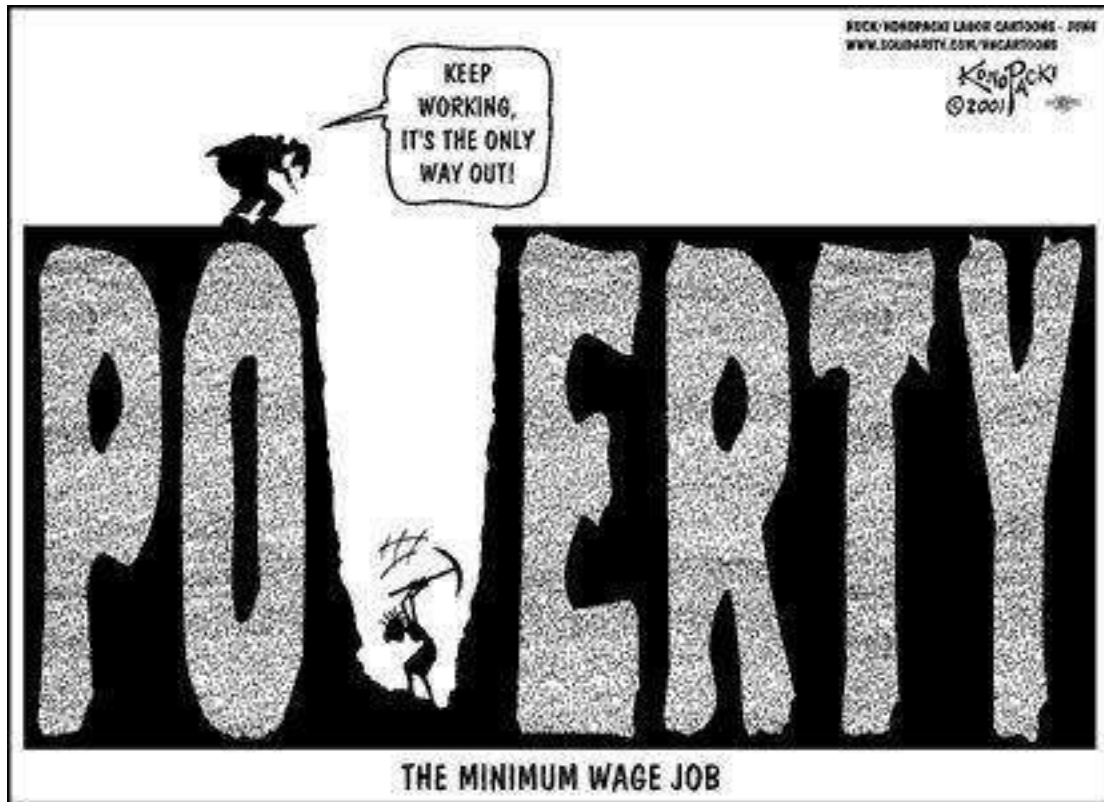
What is SNAP? SNAP, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, is the program formerly known as food stamps. It is a federal nutrition program that helps people stretch their food budget and buy healthy food.

SNAP benefits can be used to purchase food at grocery stores, convenience stores, and some farmers' markets and co-op food programs.

1. Which TWO GROUPS benefit the most from Food stamps?
2. What do these TWO GROUPS have in common? Why might they need food stamps?
3. How does this chart connect to the characters in *Make Lemonade* and "Hidden in America?"

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DOCUMENT NUMBER SEVEN



1. Who is the person in the hole? Who is the person out of the hole? How do you know?
2. Are the gender roles assigned by the cartoonist accurate or correct in your opinion? Why?
3. Using the novel, *Make Lemonade*, who is the character in the hole? Who is (are) the characters out of the hole?
4. What is the message of this political cartoon? What can the worker do to improve her situation? Why does she keep making the hole deeper?
5. How might the cartoon relate to Jolly and her family? Use examples from the text to support your opinions.